(c) and (d) There is no proposal at present before the Government to bring about any change in the present system of appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

Corruption in judiciary

1764. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any official/unofficial survey of the extent of prevalence of corruption in judicial system of the country has been conducted;

(b) if so, its outcome and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether NGOs/CVC/CBI/Supreme Court/High Courts/Transparency International have made any suggestions/observations in the above context;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(e) the corruption cases/complaints received against Judges of Supreme Court/High Courts, during the last three years and their disposal; and

(f) whether Government intends to legislate/set up any mechanism to ensure probity in judicial system?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Because the complaints regarding corruption in judiciary are dealt with by their peers.

(c) and (d) The Supreme Court in their Full Court meeting held on May 7, 1997, resolved to devise an in-house procedure to take suitable remedial action against Judges who, by their act of omission or commission, do not follow the universally accepted values of judicial life including those indicated in the "Restatement of Values of Judicial Life."

(e) and (f) Complaints received against the Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts are dealt with under "In-House" procedure. The Government has, however, introduced Judges (Inquiry) Bill, 2006 in the Lok Sabha on 19.12.2006 which seeks to devise a suitable legislative framework for empowering a judicial forum to deal with complaints against judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts.

As far as the District and Subordinate Courts are concerned, the respective High Courts are empowered to take cognizance of complaints against the members of the lower judiciary.

Seminar on judicial reforms

1765. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seminar on judicial reforms was held at New Delhi, recently;

(b) if so, the details of the points on which discussions were held in the seminar;

(c) whether Government is aware that the delay in providing justice was fraught with the risk of promoting the lynch mob phenomenon; and